

JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION
PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE

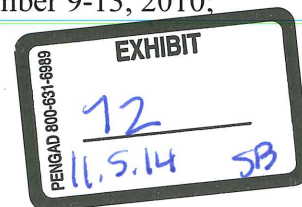
Court, Position, and Seat # for which you are applying:
Court of Appeals, Chief Judge, Seat 5

1. NAME: The Honorable John Cannon Few
BUSINESS ADDRESS: 1015 Sumter Street
Columbia, SC 29201
TELEPHONE NUMBER: (office): 803-734-1925
2. Date of Birth: 1963
Place of Birth: Anderson, SC
3. Are you a citizen of South Carolina? Yes.
Have you been a resident of this state for at least the immediate past five years? Yes.
5. Family Status: I filed for divorce in Laurens County on the grounds of one year's continuous separation. The divorce was granted on that basis on December 9, 2005. Three children.
6. Have you served in the military? No.
7. List each college and law school you attended, including the dates of your attendance, the degrees you received, and if you left an institution without receiving a degree, the reason for your departure.
 - (a) Duke University 1981-85 BA;
 - (b) USC School of Law 1985-88 JD.
8. List the states in which you have been admitted to practice law and the year of each admission. Also list any states in which you took the bar exam but were never admitted to the practice of law. If you took the bar exam more than once in any of the states listed, please indicate the number of times you took the exam in each state.

SC, 1988. I took only the SC Bar exam only once.
9. List the significant activities in which you took part during your attendance at college, graduate, and law school. Give the dates you were involved in these activities and list any leadership positions you held.
 - (a) In college I served as the Duke Blue Devil during my junior year, 1983-84;
 - (b) In law school, I served on the Law Review as a Student Works Editor during my senior year, 1987-88.
10. Describe your continuing legal or judicial education during the past five years. Include only the title and date of any continuing legal or judicial education course completed.

Much of my continuing legal education (CLE) credit comes from teaching CLEs. The CLEs I have taught are listed in response to question 11. In response to this question, I have listed CLEs I attended primarily to listen to others teach.

<u>Conference/CLE Name</u>	<u>Date</u>
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| (g) | SC Bar Convention | January 20-22, 2011; |
| (h) | It's All a Game Evidence CLE | February 18, 2011; |
| (i) | SC Judicial Conference | August 17-19, 2011; |
| (j) | Southern High Court Conference | September 15-17, 2011; |
| (k) | Conference of Chief Judges, Miami, FL | October 23-27, 2011; |
| (l) | SC Bar Convention | January 19-21, 2012; |
| (m) | It's All a Game Evidence CLE | February 17, 2012; |
| (n) | SC Judicial Conference | August 22-24, 2012; |
| (o) | SC Bar Convention | January 24-26, 2013; |
| (p) | American Board of Trial Advocates—Mock Trial | February 1, 2013; |
| (q) | It's All a Game Evidence CLE | February 15, 2013; |
| (r) | Court of Appeals Workers' Compensation CLE | April 17, 2013; |
| (s) | SC Judicial Conference | August 21-23, 2013; |
| (t) | Appellate Practice Project CLE | October 24, 2013; |
| (u) | Conference of Chief Judges, St. Louis, MO | Oct. 29-Nov. 2, 2013; |
| (v) | National Center for State Courts Annual Meeting | November 21, 2013; |
| (w) | SC Bar Convention | January 23-25, 2014; |
| (x) | It's All a Game Evidence CLE | February 21, 2014. |
11. Have you taught law-related courses or lectured at bar association conferences, educational institutions, or continuing legal or judicial education programs? If so, briefly describe each course or lecture.
- (a) August 4, 2014; "Practice Before the SC Appellate Courts"; SC Bar/Bridge the Gap; Columbia, SC;
 - (b) July 10, 2014; "What It Means To Be a Lawyer in a Central Staff Attorneys' Office"; National Association of Appellate Court Attorneys Annual Meeting; Savannah, Georgia;
 - (c) May 3, 2014; "The Courage of a Lawyer"; Defense Research Institute—Regional Meeting; Charleston, SC;
 - (d) April 10, 2014; "The Courage of a Lawyer"; Defense Research Institute—Product Liability Conference; Phoenix, Arizona;
 - (e) March 10, 2014; "Practice Before the SC Appellate Courts"; SC Bar/Bridge the Gap; Columbia, SC;
 - (f) February 28, 2014; "Panel Moderator: Update on Recent Appellate Decisions"; Criminal Law Update CLE; SC Bar; Columbia, SC;
 - (g) February 27, 2014; "In Depth View of SC Appellate Torts Cases"; SC Bar Tort Law Update CLE; Columbia, SC;
 - (h) February 21, 2014; "It's All A Game - Top Trial Lawyers Tackle Evidence"; SC Bar; Columbia, SC;
 - (i) February 10, 2014; "The Courage of a Lawyer"; International Association of Defense Counsel; Carlsbad, California;
 - (j) January 24, 2014; "The Appellate Practice Project and Update on the Court of Appeals"; Trial and Appellate Advocacy Section "Civil Update" Seminar; SC Bar Convention; Kiawah Island, SC;
 - (k) January 2, 2014; "Practice Before the SC Appellate Courts"; SC Bar/Bridge the Gap; Charleston, SC;

- (l) November 8, 2013; "Perspective from the Court of Appeals—with Judge Huff"; Injured Workers' Advocates Annual Meeting; Asheville, North Carolina;
- (m) October 24, 2013; "The Diverse Experience of a Great Lawyer;" Appellate Practice Project CLE; SC Bar; Columbia, SC;
- (n) October 11, 2013; "Briggs v. Elliott and the Lawyers Who Made it Happen;" Civil Rights Ride; Northeastern University School of Law; Camden/Summerton, SC;
- (o) September 23, 2013; "Panel Moderator: Behind the Bench—the Rulings, the Realities, & the Ramifications;" SC Solicitors' Conference; Myrtle Beach, SC;
- (p) September 5, 2013; "Role of a Trial Judge in the Administration of Justice;" Magistrate Judges' Annual Conference; Myrtle Beach, SC;
- (q) August 5, 2013; "Practice Before the SC Appellate Courts;" SC Bar/Bridge the Gap; Columbia, SC;
- (r) August 1, 2013; "Panelist: Criminal Law Panel;" SCAJ Annual Meeting; Hilton Head Island, SC;
- (s) July 12, 2013 ; "Thinking About Appeals;" New Judges' Orientation; Columbia, SC;
- (t) May 23, 2013; "Panelist: Trial Motions CLE;" SC Defense Trial Attorneys' Association; Greenville, SC;
- (u) May 2, 2013; "Panel Moderator: Current Issues in Criminal Court;" Circuit Judges Conference; Greenville, SC;
- (v) May 2, 2013; "Current Issues with Evidence;" Circuit Judges Conference; Greenville, SC;
- (w) March 28, 2013; "The Importance of Dissent in a Civilized Society;" Haynsworth/Perry Inn of Court; Greenville, SC;
- (x) March 11, 2013; "Practice Before the SC Appellate Courts;" SC Bar/Bridge the Gap; Columbia, SC;
- (y) February 22, 2013; "Panel Moderator: Update on Recent Appellate Decisions;" Criminal Law Update CLE; SC Bar; Columbia, SC;
- (z) February 15, 2013; "It's All A Game - Top Trial Lawyers Tackle Evidence;" SC Bar; Columbia, SC;
- (aa) January 25, 2013; "Evidence 'Boot Camp' for Young Lawyers;" Young Lawyers Division Seminar; SC Bar Convention; Myrtle Beach, SC;
- (bb) January 25, 2013; "Issue Preservation;" SC Bar Convention; Myrtle Beach, SC;
- (cc) December 16, 2012; "What It Means To Be a Lawyer;" Charleston School of Law Commencement Address; Charleston, SC;
- (dd) November 2, 2012; "Making a Compelling Case Before the Court of Appeals and Supreme Court of SC;" Injured Workers Advocates Annual Meeting; Asheville, North Carolina;
- (ee) October 15, 2012; "Practicing Workers' Compensation Before the Court of Appeals;" SC Workers' Compensation Education Association Annual Conference; Hilton Head Island, SC;
- (ff) October 12, 2012; "Panelist: Judiciary Squares;" Master in Equity Bench/Bar CLE; SC Bar; Columbia, SC;

- (gg) October 1, 2012; "Panelist: Access to Justice and the Judiciary;" National Legal Services Corporation Regional Meeting; Duke Fuqua School of Business; Durham, North Carolina;
- (hh) September 27, 2012; "Evidence 'Boot Camp' for Young Lawyers;" SC Defense Trial Attorneys' Association; Greenville, SC;
- (ii) September 26, 2012; "Panel Moderator: The Most Significant Judicial Decisions from the Part Year and How They Impact How You Do Your Job;" SC Solicitors' Conference; Myrtle Beach, SC;
- (jj) September 24, 2012; "Preserving Issues for Appeal;" Public Defender Conference; Myrtle Beach, SC;
- (kk) September 11, 2012; "The Other Side of Civility;" American Board of Trial Advocates; Columbia, SC;
- (ll) September 6, 2012; "Thinking Through the Structure of Evidence;" SC Magistrates' Conference; Kingston Plantation; Myrtle Beach, SC;
- (mm) August 6, 2012; "The Role of Local Government in the Future of Our Courts;" SC Association County Attorneys Annual Meeting; Hilton Head Island, SC;
- (nn) August 2, 2012; "Panelist: Fee Awards—Ethics and Practice;" SC Association for Justice; Hilton Head Island, SC;
- (oo) July 31, 2012; "Practice Before the SC Appellate Courts;" SC Bar/Bridge the Gap; Columbia, SC;
- (pp) April 11, 2012; "Common Pitfalls For, and Mistakes Made By, Young Lawyers;" Sowell Gray CLE at Trustus Theatre; Columbia, SC;
- (qq) March 6, 2012; "Practice Before the SC Appellate Courts;" SC Bar/Bridge the Gap; Columbia, SC;
- (rr) February 24, 2012; "Panel Moderator: Update on Recent Appellate Decisions;" Criminal Law Update CLE; SC Bar; Columbia, SC;
- (ss) February 17, 2012; "It's All A Game - Top Trial Lawyers Tackle Evidence;" SC Bar; Columbia, SC;
- (tt) February 17, 2012; "Ethics: The Importance of Dissent in a Democratic Society;" SC Bar; Columbia, SC;
- (uu) January 20, 2012; "Playing to the Discretion of a Trial Judge: Practicing the Art of Evidence from a Trial Lawyer's Perspective;" Criminal Law CLE; SC Bar Convention; Columbia, SC;
- (vv) January 20, 2012; "Developing Yourself as a CLE Speaker;" Young Lawyers Division Seminar; SC Bar Convention; Columbia, SC;
- (ww) January 6, 2012; "Panelist: Play By the Rules; Evidence and Civil Procedure in Tort Cases;" SC Bar Tort Law Update; Columbia, SC;
- (xx) October 14, 2011; "Judicial Ethics;" Domestic Violence Seminar; Spartanburg, SC;
- (yy) October 4, 2011; "The Importance of Dissent in a Civilized Society;" John Belton O'Neill Inn of Court; Columbia, SC;
- (zz) September 16, 2011; "The Courage of a Lawyer;" North Carolina/SC Construction Sections Joint Meeting; SC Bar; Wild Dunes, SC;
- (aaa) August 2, 2011; "Practice Before the SC Appellate Courts;" SC Bar/Bridge the Gap; Columbia, SC;

- (bbb) June 3, 2011; "The Importance of What You Do;" SC Family Court Judges Conference; Fripp Island, SC;
- (ccc) February 18, 2011; "It's All A Game - Top Trial Lawyers Tackle Evidence;" SC Bar; Columbia, SC;
- (ddd) February 11, 2011; "The Courage of a Lawyer;" Greenville County Year End CLE; Greenville, SC;
- (eee) February 4, 2011; "The Tactical Use of Allegations of Misconduct Against a Judge;" VIP GlobalNet Webinar Presentation;
- (fff) February 4, 2011; "The Tactical Use of Allegations of Misconduct Against a Judge;" ABOTA Ethics CLE; USC Law School; Columbia, SC;
- (ggg) January 14, 2011; "The Tactical Use of Allegations of Misconduct Against a Judge;" VIP GlobalNet Webinar Presentation;
- (hhh) December 21, 2010; "The Tactical Use of Allegations of Misconduct Against a Judge;" VIP GlobalNet Webinar Presentation;
- (iii) November 19, 2010; "Panelist: Judicial Panel;" SC Legal Services Annual Meeting; Myrtle Beach, SC;
- (jjj) November 18, 2010; "The Courage of a Lawyer;" SC Legal Services Annual Meeting; Myrtle Beach, SC;
- (kkk) November 5, 2010; "Workers' Compensation Update;" Injured Workers Advocates Annual Convention; Asheville, North Carolina;
- (lll) September 24, 2010; "Judicial Ethics;" Domestic Violence Seminar; Spartanburg, SC;
- (mmm) August 5, 2010; Criminal Appellate Advocacy Seminar; National Advocacy Center; Columbia, SC;
- (nnn) August 3, 2010; "Practice Before the SC Appellate Courts;" SC Bar/Bridge the Gap; Columbia, SC;
- (ooo) June 25, 2010; "Appeals From the Commission to the Court of Appeals;" 75th Anniversary of the Workers' Compensation Act; SC Bar; Columbia, SC;
- (ppp) May 6, 2010; "Reflections of a Circuit Judge;" Circuit Court Judges Association Conference; Litchfield, SC;
- (qqq) April 22, 2010; "The SC Court of Appeals;" Family Court Judges Association Conference; Columbia, SC;
- (rrr) March 5, 2010; "Thinking Through the Structure of Evidence;" SC Bar Golf Getaway CLE; Kiawah Island, SC;
- (sss) February 12, 2010; "Opening Statements and Closing Arguments;" Masters in Trial; American Board of Trial Advocates and SC Bar; Columbia, SC;
- (ttt) February 5, 2010; "It's All A Game - Top Trial Lawyers Tackle Evidence;" SC Bar; Columbia, SC;
- (uuu) January 22, 2010; "Differences Between the State and Federal Rules of Evidence;" Criminal Law Update; SC Bar Convention; Kiawah Island, SC;
- (vvv) November 7, 2009; "Panelist: Judge's Panel;" SC Defense Trial Attorneys Association; Savannah, Georgia;
- (www) October 29, 2009; "The Courage of a Lawyer;" Attorney's Information Exchange Group; Charleston, SC;
- (xxx) October 2, 2009; "Judicial Ethics;" SAFE Homes – Rape Crisis Coalition; Spartanburg, SC;

- (yyy) September 27, 2009; "The Courage of a Lawyer;" SC Solicitor's Association; Hilton Head, SC;
- (zzz) September 21-24, 2009; "Fundamentals of Evidence;" National Judicial College/New Mexico Judicial Education Center; Albuquerque, New Mexico;
- (aaaa) May 4, 2009; "The Courage of a Lawyer;" Thirteenth Circuit Solicitor's Office; Clemson, SC;
- (bbbb) February 13, 2009; "It's All A Game - Top Trial Lawyers Tackle Evidence;" SC Bar; Columbia, SC;
- (cccc) February 10, 2009; "The Courage of a Lawyer;" Michelin Regional Counsel Meeting; Greenville, SC;
- (dddd) December 5, 2008; Ethics: "The Courage of a Lawyer;" SC Association for Justice - Auto Torts Seminar; Atlanta, Georgia;
- (eeee) November 21, 2008; "What It Means to Be a Lawyer;" Nexsen Pruet Associates Meeting; Greenville, SC;
- (ffff) November 15, 2008 "The Courage of a Lawyer; and the Introduction of Matthew Perry;" SC Defense Trial Attorneys Association; Amelia Island, Florida;
- (gggg) October 3, 2008; "Judicial Ethics;" SAFE Homes – Rape Crisis Coalition; Spartanburg, SC;
- (hhhh) September 19, 2008; "What Civil Court Judges Want You To Know;" National Business Institute - Judicial Forum; Greenville, SC;
- (iiii) September 19, 2008; "What a Paralegal Means, to Who a Lawyer Is, to the People We Serve;" SC Upstate Paralegal Association; Greenville, SC;
- (jjjj) July 26, 2008 ; Ethics: "The Courage of a Lawyer;" SC Defense Trial Attorneys' Association; Asheville, North Carolina;
- (kkkk) February 8, 2008; "It's All A Game - Top Trial Lawyers Tackle Evidence;" SC Bar; Columbia, SC;
- (llll) November 30, 2007; "Discovery, Evidence and Technology;" National Business Institute – Advanced Discovery and Evidence; Columbia, SC;
- (mmmm) November 29, 2007; "Discovery, Evidence and Technology;" National Business Institute – Advanced Discovery and Evidence; Greenville, SC;
- (nnnn) November 3, 2007; "Panelist: Expert witnesses: Changing SC Law;" SC Defense Trial Attorneys' Association; Pinehurst, North Carolina;
- (oooo) October 26, 2007; "A View From the Bench;" SC Tort Law Update; SC Bar; Columbia, SC;
- (pppp) October 26, 2007; "Judicial Ethics Workshop;" SAFE Homes – Rape Crisis Coalition; Spartanburg, SC;
- (qqqq) September 15, 2007; "A View From the Bench—Preparing for Trial in a Construction Case;" North and SC Bars Construction Law Sections Biennial Meeting; Wild Dunes, Charleston, SC;
- (rrrr) August 20-23, 2007; "Fundamentals of Evidence;" National Judicial College; Reno, Nevada
- (ssss) June 8, 2007; "A Circuit Judge's Look Back, and Forward At the Role of the Lawyer;" Greenville County Bar Association; Greenville, SC;
- (tttt) February 22, 2007; "Complex Case / Class Action;" SC Judicial Seminar for Chief Judges of the Circuit Court; Columbia, SC;

- (uuuu) July 28, 2006; "The Circuit Court Courtroom in the 21st Century: Technology and Tradition;" SC Defense Trial Attorneys' Association; Grove Park Inn, Asheville, North Carolina;
 - (vvvvv) November 14-17, 2005; "Fundamentals of Evidence;" National Judicial College; Reno, Nevada;
 - (www) December 3, 2004; "An Ethical View From the Bench;" Greenville County Bar Association; Greenville, SC;
 - (xxxx) November 11, 2004; "Perspective;" Michelin Regional Counsel Meeting; Greenville, SC;
 - (yyyy) November 5, 2004; "Thinking Through the Structure of Evidence;" SC Bar – Beyond the Bar II; Greenville, SC;
 - (zzzz) December 5, 2003; "An Ethical View From the Bench;" Greenville County Bar Association; Greenville, SC;
 - (aaaa) December 13, 2002; "An Ethical View From the Bench;" Greenville County Bar Association; Greenville, SC;
 - (bbbb) December 12, 2001; "Tips from the Bench – Guilty Pleas;" SC Bar; Kiawah Island, SC;
 - (cccc) December 7, 2001; "Ethics;" Greenville County Bar Association; Greenville, SC;
 - (dddd) November 8, 2001; "Panelist: Products Liability Panel;" SC Defense Trial Attorneys' Association; Kiawah Island, SC;
 - (eeee) January 29, 2001; "The Fundamentals of Trial Advocacy;" Thirteenth Circuit Solicitor's Office; Clemson, SC;
 - (ffff) August 3, 2000; "Environmental Lit. In the New Millennium and Its Expert Witnesses, If Any;" SC Trial Lawyers Association; Hilton Head Island, SC.
12. List all published books and articles you have written and give citations and the dates of publication for each.
- (a) The Courage of a Lawyer, ABA Litigation Journal, Winter 2013;
 - (b) artofevidence, <http://artofevidence.wordpress.com/>
This is a blog I publish for my students, formerly at the Charleston School of Law, currently at the USC School of Law;
 - (c) Appellate Advocacy—"Speaking Frankly", Foreword to Charleston Law Review, volume 5 number 1 (Fall 2010).
I have not published any other books or articles since I became a judge in 2000.
13. List all courts in which you have been admitted to practice and list the dates of your admission. Give the same information for administrative bodies that require a special admission to practice.
- (a) SC 1988;
 - (b) US District Court, DSC 1989;
 - (c) US Court of Appeals, 4th Circuit 1990;
 - (d) US Supreme Court 1995.
14. Describe chronologically your legal experience since graduation from law school and include a list of all law firms with which you have been associated. Describe the general character of your practice and divide it into periods with dates if its character has changed over the years.
- (a) 1989-97 Private Civil Practice, in partnership with my father, J. Kendall Few;
 - (b) 1997-2000 Private Civil Practice by myself;

- (c) 2000-10 Circuit Court Judge;
 - (d) 2010-Present Chief Judge, SC Court of Appeals.
15. What is your rating, if any, by any legal rating organization, such as, Best Lawyers, Chambers, Legal 500, Martindale-Hubbell, Who's Who Legal, Super Lawyers, etc.? If you are currently a member of the judiciary, list your last available rating, if any.
- Martindale-Hubbell—AV.
- I am not aware that I have been rated by any other organization.
22. Have you ever held judicial office?
- I served as a Circuit Judge from July 1, 2000 to February 3, 2010. Since that date I have served as the Chief Judge of the SC Court of Appeals. I was elected to each position by the General Assembly.
- The jurisdiction of the circuit court is defined generally by article V, section 11 of the SC Constitution and more specifically by the General Assembly in title 14, chapter 5 of the SC Code.
- The jurisdiction of the court of appeals is defined generally by article V, section 9 of the SC Constitution and more specifically by the General Assembly in title 14, chapter 8 of the SC Code.
23. If the answer to question 22 is yes, describe or list five of your most significant orders or opinions and give the citations if they were reported. Also list citations to any appellate review of these orders or opinions.
- I have published over 80 opinions since joining the Court of Appeals and have written or joined over a thousand others. Each one is equally significant in that it decides an important issue in the lives of SC citizens. Here are five of the ones I deem the most significant for their precedential value:
- (a) State v. Gray, 408 S.C. 601, 759 S.E.2d 160 (Ct. App. 2014) and State v. Collins, 398 S.C. 197, 727 S.E.2d 751 (Ct.App.2012). I include these opinions together because their significance relates to the same issue—the admissibility of graphic autopsy photographs. The supreme court granted certiorari in Collins (Aug. 8, 2013);
 - (b) Palms v. School District of Greenville County, 408 S.C. 576, 758 S.E.2d 919 (Ct. App. 2014). This opinion is significant because it addresses the limited role of the judiciary in the affairs of government;
 - (c) Riley v. Ford Motor Co., 408 S.C. 1, 757 S.E.2d 422 (Ct. App. 2014). This opinion is significant because it upholds a litigant's (Ford's) constitutional right to a trial by jury;
 - (d) AnMed Health v. S.C. Department of Employment & Workforce, 404 S.C. 224, 743 S.E.2d 854 (Ct. App. 2013). This opinion is significant because it upholds the right of hospitals to make patient-safety decisions unencumbered by employment considerations, and yet also upholds a State agency's right and duty to follow its statutory mandate to provide unemployment benefits under law;
 - (e) State v. Dukes, 404 S.C. 553, 745 S.E.2d 137 (Ct. App. 2013). This opinion is significant because it explains novel issues regarding the limited right of a criminal defendant to due process of law in relation to a victim's or another witness's pretrial identification of the defendant as the person who committed a crime. The supreme court denied certiorari in Dukes (July 25, 2014).
24. Have you ever held public office other than judicial office? No.

25. List all employment you had while serving as a judge (whether full-time or part-time, contractual or at will, consulting or otherwise) other than elected judicial office. Specify your dates of employment, employer, major job responsibilities, and supervisor.
- (a) I served as Adjunct Professor, and later Distinguished Visiting Professor, at the Charleston School of Law from the summer of 2008 until the summer of 2012. I taught Evidence and Advanced Evidence. It was a part-time position. My supervisor was the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, first Nancy Zisk and later Margaret Lawton. For this work, I was paid a salary and given a per trip expense reimbursement;
 - (b) In the Fall of 2012 and 2013, I taught Advanced Evidence at the USC School of Law. I will teach the same class in the Fall of 2014. I hold no title, and I accept no compensation; I simply teach. My supervisor has been Danielle Holley-Walker.
26. Have you ever been an unsuccessful candidate for elective, judicial, or other public office?
I ran unsuccessfully for the Supreme Court of SC in 2007, 2008, and 2009.
27. Have you ever been engaged in any occupation, business, or profession other than the practice of law, teaching of law, or holding judicial or other public office? No.
28. Are you now an officer or director or involved in the management of any business enterprise? No.
29. A complete, current financial net worth statement was provided to the Commission.
30. Describe any financial arrangements or business relationships you have, or have had in the past, that could constitute or result in a possible conflict of interest in the position you seek. Explain how you would resolve any potential conflict of interest. None.
31. Have you ever been arrested, charged, or held by federal, state, or other law enforcement authorities for violation or for suspicion of violation of any federal law or regulation, state law or regulation, or county or municipal law, regulation, or ordinance, or any other law, including another country's law? No.
32. Have you, to your knowledge, ever been under federal, state, or local investigation for possible violation of a criminal statute? No.
33. Has a tax lien or other collection procedure ever been instituted against you by federal, state, or local authorities? Have you ever defaulted on a student loan? Have you ever filed for bankruptcy? No.
34. Have you ever been sued, either personally or professionally, that is, have you ever been named as defendant or respondent in any court of law?
My name is sometimes listed as a defendant in lawsuits with which I am never served. The following are the lawsuits of which I am aware.
- (a) Douglas M. Thompson, an inmate in the SC Department of Corrections, recently sued the court of appeals and others in US District Court. I have a copy of the complaint, but I have not been served with it. I do not know the status of this case;
 - (b) I was sued in US District Court by Michael A. McKeown, who I believe is an inmate that plead guilty before me. The case was dismissed on summary judgment;
 - (c) I was sued by Donald Strable in US District Court for \$21 million. The allegations arose out of my having been assigned as administrative judge for all the lawsuits he had filed against other judges. Because the case was filed pro se, he was not allowed to serve me without the permission of the Federal Court, and that permission was denied. The case is over;

- (d) I was listed as a defendant in Rochester v. L. Casey Massing, 2004-MC-00008. However, I was never served with a summons and complaint and never participated in the case. I have no idea what the allegations against me were. As far as I know, the case has been dismissed;
 - (e) A former client of mine, Newco Electrical Supplies, Inc., and one of its owners James H. Vaughn Jr., sued me and my co- counsel in the case. The case was filed in Greenville County, case number 03-CP-23-3354. The case was dismissed on a motion for summary judgment;
 - (f) I was served with a Petition for a Writ of Prohibition in the Supreme Court of SC in regards to my role as the assigned judge in State v. Jerry Buck Inman, a death penalty case in Pickens County. The Court assigned the case to another judge in a written Order;
 - (g) In 2007, I was sent a copy of what appeared to be a pleading filed by Glen Laconey, a defendant in a case before the SC Supreme Court alleging the unauthorized practice of law, in which I had been assigned to be the Special Referee. I do not believe this was a lawsuit, I have no reason to believe it was ever filed, and I was never served with a summons.
Otherwise, I do not recall ever being sued.
36. Have you ever been investigated by the Department of Social Services? Has your name ever been enrolled on the Central Registry of Child Abuse and Neglect? No.
37. If you are in private practice, are you covered by malpractice insurance and, if so, how long have you carried malpractice insurance? I am not in private practice.
38. Are you active on or a member of a social media or Internet site or have you, to your knowledge, been featured or depicted on a social media or Internet site, such as, Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, etc.?
I use social media. I have active accounts at Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, and Instagram. I have used YouTube, but I am not currently active. I use these social media sites primarily as an observer. When I have posted in the past, it has usually been with some photograph of or experience with my children.
I have been featured on websites. Recently, someone created an account in my name without my permission on a social media site. I was forced to log in, change the password, and delete the account. I cannot remember the name of the social media site. Also, a disgruntled litigant recently created a site called <http://www.jamesislandhighschoolawareness.org/>. My name and photograph are found throughout the site. I once had someone create a Facebook account whose purpose was to criticize me. These are examples of the many times I have been featured on an internet site, many of which I never knew about or cannot now remember.
(At one point, I explored developing a website to promote and cultivate courage in lawyers. The site was never fully developed and is now closed.
Because I am a judge, I carefully control my social media use and try to control my internet presence to ensure I am at all times in compliance with the Code of Judicial Conduct.
39. Are you now or have you ever been employed as a “lobbyist,” as defined by S.C. Code § 2-17-10(13), or have you acted in the capacity of a “lobbyist’s principal,” as defined by S.C. Code § 2-17-10(14)? No.

40. Since filing with the Commission your letter of intent to run for judicial office, have you accepted lodging, transportation, entertainment, food, meals, beverages, money, or any other thing of value as defined by S.C. Code § 2-17-10(1) from a lobbyist or lobbyist's principal?
No.
41. S.C. Code § 8-13-700 provides, in part, that "[n]o public official, public member, or public employee may knowingly use his official office, membership, or employment to obtain an economic interest for himself, a member of his immediate family, an individual with whom he is associated, or a business with which he is associated." Please detail any knowledge you have of any formal charges or informal allegations against you or any other candidate for violations of these provisions. None.
42. S.C. Code § 8-13-765 provides, in part, that "[n]o person may use government personnel, equipment, materials, or an office building in an election campaign." Please detail any knowledge you have of any formal charges or informal allegations against you or any other candidate for violations of these provisions. None.
43. Itemize (by amount, type, and date) all expenditures, other than those for travel and room and board, made by you, or on your behalf in furtherance of your candidacy for the position you seek. None.
44. List the amount and recipient of all contributions made by you or on your behalf to members of the General Assembly since the announcement of your intent to seek election to a judgeship. None.
45. Have you directly or indirectly requested the pledge of any member of the General Assembly as to your election for the position for which you are being screened? Have you received the assurance of any public official or public employee that they will seek the pledge of any member of the General Assembly as to your election for the position for which you are being screened? No.
46. Have you requested a friend or colleague to contact members of the General Assembly on your behalf? Are you aware of any friends or colleagues contacting members of the General Assembly on your behalf?

I have not requested anyone to contact a member of the General Assembly on my behalf in regards to my reelection for the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals. Of course, in my initial election into the Circuit Court in 2000, in my reelection bid in 2006, in my bids for the Supreme Court in 2008 and 2009, and in my race for Chief Judge in 2010, I did so after the point in time when the rules allowed me to.

As to the second question, I am aware that from time to time there is discussion about judicial politics between members of the General Assembly and a wide variety of people, many of whom are my friends or colleagues. I am aware that many of those discussions are about me. However, I am not aware that anyone has contacted a member of the General Assembly on my behalf.

47. Have you or has anyone acting on your behalf solicited or collected funds to aid in the promotion of your candidacy? No.
48. Have you or has anyone acting on your behalf contacted members of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission about your candidacy or intention to become a candidate? No.
49. List all bar associations and professional organizations of which you are a member and give the titles and dates of any offices you have held in such groups.
- (a) SC Bar;
 - (b) Greenville County Bar;

- (c) Haynsworth/Perry Inn of Court.
50. List all civic, charitable, educational, social, and fraternal organizations of which you are or have been a member during the past five years and include any offices held in such a group, any professional honors, awards, or other forms of recognition received and not listed elsewhere.

I serve on the Duke University Alumni Advisory Committee for the upstate. All I do in that capacity is to interview high school seniors who have applied to Duke. I have also served in the unofficial role of President of the Duke Club of the Upstate, which specifically does not involve any fundraising whatsoever. I am simply a contact person for Duke alumni who live in this area, and from time to time I schedule events for Duke alumni in our area.

51. Provide any other information that may reflect positively or negatively on your candidacy, or which you believe should be disclosed in connection with consideration of you for nomination for the position you seek. This information may include how your life experiences have affected or influenced the kind or type of judge you have been or plan to be.

I know of none that should be disclosed.

52. References:
- (a) Stephen L. Davis
 - (b) Robert E. Reeves Jr.
 - (c) Andrew B. Moorman Sr.
 - (d) Kenneth H. Holcomb
 - (e) Paul C. Aughtry III

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT MY ANSWERS ARE TRUE AND COMPLETE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE.

Signature: John Cannon Few
Date: August 5, 2014

QUESTIONS FOR CANDIDATES

CHIEF JUDGE OF THE COURT OF APPEALS, SEAT 5

Due on or before Noon, August 7, 2014

Answer all 5 questions

QUESTION NO. 1:

Pursuant to § 14-8-80, subject to the provisions of Article V, Section 4 of the S.C. Constitution, the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals has additional responsibilities besides serving as an appellate judge. Explain what has been your role managing the Court of Appeals.

My "management" role is spelled out primarily in title 14, chapter 8 of the South Carolina Code, and in a memorandum from the Supreme Court to the Court of Appeals dated July 22, 2011.

As part of my work fulfilling those responsibilities, I work closely with the Clerk of Court and her staff, and the Staff Attorneys. This has given me the opportunity to influence the manner in which the Court deals with certain issues. For example, the Court receives numerous motions to dismiss on the grounds that the order on appeal is not immediately appealable. This can be a difficult question to answer, and it often seems easier to deny the motion to dismiss and let the panel address appealability after oral argument. I have pushed us to deal with these issues up front, the result of which is that cases get resolved more quickly for the benefit of our citizens.

Another example involves the number and length of extension requests granted for the filing of briefs and other documents. By paying close attention to these extension requests under my management, the Court of Appeals has significantly reduced the number of requests made, and in the process we have shortened the time it takes to dispose of many appeals.

One other part of my role is to keep staff focused on the goals of the Court and their role in meeting those goals. This allows me to do two of the things I do best—motivate and inspire.

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QUESTION NO. 2:

As a follow-up, describe what has been your managerial style as Chief Judge, focusing on what you perceive to be your three major strengths and weaknesses as a manager and leader.

My leadership style is built on the foundation of a strong professional relationship with my coworkers and those I lead. I listen very carefully to the hopes and concerns of all members of the organization. In the case of the Court of Appeals, those "members" include the Bar—the lawyers who represent the individual, corporate, and governmental citizens of South Carolina. I obviously do not discuss cases with them, but I believe it is very important to listen to the concerns of those we serve related to the administration of the justice system in South Carolina and the role of the Court of Appeals in that system.

With those ideas in mind, I formulate an ambitious vision for the future. Through the strength of the relationships I continue to develop, I lead those who work within the organization to invest in the vision and to apply their energy to the task of making that vision a reality. Bringing this leadership style to the Court of Appeals has involved two distinct modes of management, one for the members of the Court (which is not really "management") and one for the legal and administrative staff. I have managed those who work with me, such as the Clerk's staff and Staff Attorneys, by setting appropriate standards for their work, establishing follow-up mechanisms to see that those standards are met, and consistently ensuring that each person understands the significance of his or her work to achieving the goals for the Court. I set high standards for my own work and performance, and therefore lead by example in this respect. The other Judges on the Court have their own standards for themselves, their law clerks, and their staff.

My first strength is that I am determined to continue to cultivate my leadership ability. I have strived for years to understand what skills it takes to lead, and I have worked very hard to develop those skills. I surround myself with competent, ambitious, hard-working people. I listen intently to ideas for success. I integrate each person into the team so that each understands the importance of his or her role as we look forward toward objectives, and the significance of their contribution as we look back on success. I make each person's individual success just as important as the success of the group. I make ambitious goals seem attainable, and yet I demonstrate patience. When the group succeeds, I give credit to others. When goals are not met, I take responsibility for the failure. I realize that in order to lead effectively, I must be likeable and I must show humility. The success of an organization like the Court of Appeals requires a strong leader who has systematically worked to develop the skills that I have brought to the position of Chief Judge.

Second, I have a tremendous work ethic. Most importantly, I work hard on individual cases. Everybody at the Court of Appeals knows how hard I work on

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cases. I also work hard to understand how the Court of Appeals has operated in the past and how its operation can be improved. I work hard to gain the confidence of those around me. I strive to understand their individual situation and their ideas about their own success and the success of the group. I have demonstrated this work ethic as a lawyer, as a Circuit Judge, and now as Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals. I will continue to work as hard as I can to make this Court the best Appellate Court in the United States.

Third, I know how to get along with people, how to cultivate strong professional relationships, and how to make people like me as a person. This skill is essential to leading any group, and it is one of my strengths.

The first thing I will say about my weaknesses is that I work very hard to examine myself and my performance as objectively as possible. It is important to me that I know my weaknesses, and try to turn them into strengths, insofar as possible.

The first weakness of which I must be aware in order to be an effective leader is that I tend to hold others to the high standards of performance to which I hold myself. This has the potential to make me seem demanding rather than encouraging. I must understand that allowing this perception may actually make it more difficult for me to achieve the high level of performance I seek from those with whom I work. Rather, I must understand that each person's standards must be reasonable for that person at that time. While I will always seek to encourage those who work with me to set their standards high, each person's standards must seem reasonably attainable to that person.

Second, I have difficulty delegating tasks. I have a tendency to want to take on the tasks of other people, so that I can ensure the task is done correctly. I have fought this weakness for many years, but it actually got worse after I got to the Court of Appeals. In recent months, I have more effectively delegated tasks to law clerks, staff attorneys, and administrative personnel.

Third, the enthusiasm, confidence, and decisiveness I bring to my work as a judge often comes off as overconfidence and inflexibility. To combat this weakness, I try to discipline myself to be a listener, and to make decisions only after I have heard everyone speak their position on the question.

QUESTION NO. 3:

Describe the accomplishments you have achieved on the Court of Appeals since serving as the Chief Judge since 2009.

One of the great things about appellate courts such as ours is that accomplishments belong to the group, not to any one individual. The Court of Appeals has accomplished a lot for a long time before I got here, and we have accomplished a lot since 2010.

Our accomplishments since 2010 include:

- We have significantly shortened the average time it takes to resolve an appeal.
 - Beginning in early February 2010, the Chief Justice authorized the Court of Appeals to employ retired clerk of court Ken Richstad to research the time it took individual cases to go from notice of appeal to final resolution. Mr. Richstad determined that on average for cases heard by the Court of Appeals in February 2010, it took twenty-six months from the filing of a notice of appeal for the case to reach oral argument. Today, that number is drastically reduced.
 - Mr. Richstad's research led us to realize there are three primary time periods in any appeal: (1) from notice of appeal to the filing of final briefs, at which time the case is ready to be assigned to a panel; (2) from assignment to a panel to oral argument; and (3) from oral argument to filing of an opinion.
 - This third category is the only one under the direct control of any one judge or panel, and the Court of Appeals has always done an excellent job of getting its opinions drafted and filed promptly. The Court continues to do an excellent job of preparing and filing opinions promptly after oral argument.
 - The duration of the first time period is dependent on several factors, including primarily the time it takes court reporters to prepare transcripts, and the number and duration of extension requests filed by the attorneys and granted by the Court. The Court of Appeals has little power to directly affect the time it takes court reporters to prepare transcripts. However, we have shortened this first period of time by addressing the number and duration of extension requests in two primary ways.
 - First, as to civil cases, the Court has encouraged attorneys to reduce the number of extension requests filed. In the past, multiple extensions were routinely granted without questioning their necessity or the impact those extensions had on the duration of cases. Today, the Court allows only one "free" extension request. The order granting such a

request states "no further extensions will be granted except on a showing of extraordinary circumstances."

- Second, as to criminal cases, the granting of extensions is governed by an order of the Supreme Court dated March 18, 2009. In the past, the limited resources of the Office of Appellate Defense has necessitated numerous extensions of time, often six or seven, and in some cases even ten. In the Fall of 2013, the Court of Appeals organized the Appellate Practice Project in cooperation with the Chief Justice, the Attorney General, the Office of Appellate Defense, and the South Carolina Bar. Through this project, fifty private lawyers were assigned voluntarily to handle fifty oral argument cases pending with Appellate Defense. Primarily as a result of this project, the Court of Appeals almost never receives more than four extension requests from Appellate Defense. This alone has shortened the average time for a criminal appeal by many months. We are renewing the Appellate Practice Project this fall to further reduce the number of extensions necessary for Appellate Defense to complete its work in a case.
- The Court of Appeals has implemented other measures to shorten the time between the filing of a notice of appeal and completion of briefing. These include:
 - Reducing the number of cases placed in "held in abeyance" category.
 - Working "indirectly" on transcript delays in general, and on delays in specific cases, to ensure that transcripts are ready for use as soon as possible.
 - Improving the performance of the docketing staff in the Clerk's office to speed the preparation of cases for the Court's consideration.
 - Implementing a procedure for settlements of appellate cases as to which statutory law requires the settlement be approved by the lower court. Our procedure allows the appeal to be dismissed and remanded for approval. If the settlement is not consummated, we reinstate the appeal.
 - Checking with bankruptcy courts to determine status of litigants who declared bankruptcy. This has allowed us to immediately proceed to resolve some very old cases we thought were governed by the Federal bankruptcy stay.
 - Copying circuit and family judges on remand orders to ensure those judges are aware when the Court of Appeals issues a temporary remand order for a

specific action by the lower court. This has proven particularly important in remand orders for reconstruction of the record, where we have specifically instructed counsel to contact the presiding judge within a short period of time so the judge knows to set a hearing.

- As to the second category, as of this date, the Court of Appeals has almost no lag time in scheduling cases for argument, or reviewing and deciding cases where there will be no argument, after the briefing is complete. This is a significant improvement since 2010.
- We have maintained—even improved—the high caliber of lawyers who seek and obtain employment with the Court of Appeals.
- We have increased the number of staff attorneys from ten in 2010 to fifteen.
- We have maintained the Court's excellent perception within the Bar and by the public.

I have personally observed from within the Court—as I obviously did not have the opportunity to do before—that the judges of the Court of Appeals are deeply dedicated to the privilege of delivering justice to the citizens of South Carolina. Some of the most satisfying experiences I have had as a lawyer have come since I joined the Court of Appeals watching its judges work with passion and resolve to handle a particular case according to law with the goal of fairness and justice.

These are the Court's accomplishments—not mine alone.

QUESTION NO. 4:

Describe what you have done to improve the operations of the Court of Appeals as well as foster collegiality.

I believe collegiality on this Court and in any organization begins with a shared commitment to the mission of the organization. In the case of the Court of Appeals, its judges are deeply committed to justice. This commitment includes an understanding of the necessity and benefits of disagreement. There are plenty of times when the judges of the Court of Appeals disagree. Those disagreements sharpen our understanding of cases and operational issues in a way that improves our ability meet our mission. My observation is that almost without exception we manage our disagreements with the dignity and professionalism the people of South Carolina are entitled to expect from us. I am proud of the collegiality shown by the Court of Appeals!

I have also attempted to foster collegiality by cultivating a close working relationship with each Judge on the Court. Through the relationships I continue to develop, I have attempted to demonstrate a respect for each Judge's personal judicial philosophy. I have not intruded within the privacy of other judges' personal views about the law. While I encourage open and honest discussion about legal issues, I have attempted to set a tone in which those discussions, and particularly the disagreements, must focus on differences in the interpretation of the law and not on personal differences. Especially in the context of disagreement, I have embraced the responsibility of a leader—to keep everyone focused on the fact that each Judge has the same basic goal in each individual case: reaching a just and fair result in a timely manner.

As far as operations, the Court of Appeals has done a great job of integrating technology into what we do. Our leadership on this subject has come primarily from our Chief Justice, but each individual judge and each member of our staff has individually embraced this advance, and has worked hard to utilize the technological tools available to us. We have the capability for three judges in distant regions of the State to immediately consider the same emergency motion, for example, and with full access to the entire record, briefs, and legal research on our iPads or computers, immediately execute an order and transmit it via email to the parties. This "capability" is made valuable to the citizens of South Carolina by our judges' determination to learn it, and use it.

We have employed specific training in specialized subject areas, such as Workers' Compensation and Post-Conviction Relief. On two occasions we have hosted educational seminars for our staff lawyers and judges on Workers' Compensation, each taught by some of the leading lawyers in the field. We have implemented similar programs for PCRs. We have taken our lawyers to circuit and family court to observe the types of cases we handle on appeal. We have arranged tours of laboratories at SLED, prisons and local jails, and hosted

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a variety of discussions, all designed to give our lawyers a better understanding of the practical impact of our work, and thereby improve our ability to deliver justice to our citizens.

QUESTION NO. 5:

Based on your present plans, discuss the length of time you intend to serve as the Chief Judge if you are nominated by the Commission and re-elected to this position by the members of the General Assembly, and describe the accomplishments you hope to achieve over your next term of office.

I do not plan to leave the judiciary. Serving as the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals has been one of the very highest honors and privileges of my judicial career. Thus, if reelected, I plan to continue serving as Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals indefinitely.

It is no secret that for a long time I have intended to seek a position on the Supreme Court when the time is right for me to do that. When a seat opens on the Supreme Court, I plan to run for that seat.

I continue to have an ambitious vision for the Court of Appeals. I hope to achieve the following accomplishments in my next term of office:

- I would like to continue to shorten the time it takes us to handle an appeal. Because our Court has always done extremely well in the third time period I mentioned above, and because we have made as much progress as possible in the second, I will focus from here out primarily on the first time period.
 - We have already set up another round of the Appellate Practice Project. I hope that this can become an annual project.
 - I will continue to work with the Chief Justice and with Court Administration to shorten the time it takes court reporters to prepare transcripts, and eventually to make their preparation instantaneous through the use of digital technology.
 - I will continue to work with our Clerk of Court to monitor and improve performance with the docketing staff at the Court of Appeals to meet the needs of lawyers and litigants in a timely manner and speed along the completion of briefing in cases.
- As I described in my 2009 application materials, I would like the Court of Appeals to establish benchmarks for performance in getting appeals resolved in a timely manner.
- The Court of Appeals will face new challenges I would like to lead us through. For example, the appellate court system is flooded with petitions for certiorari from PCRs. Under current procedure, those petitions are filed with the Supreme Court. On occasion, the Supreme Court transfers PCRs to the Court of Appeals for us to handle. As I have told the Chief Justice, the Court of Appeals needs to handle all PCR certiorari petitions so the Supreme Court can continue to fulfill its mission of purely discretionary review. I will work with the Supreme

Court, the Bar, and the members of our Court, to develop and employ procedures to timely and efficiently handle all petitions for certiorari in PCR cases.

- I will work to assist the Chief Justice in implementing e-filing.
- I would like to continue to assure the public, the Bar, and the General Assembly that the Court of Appeals is doing its very best to deliver quality justice in a timely manner to the citizens of South Carolina.